## SOME NEW BOOKS.

Porto Rico.

The most useful book which has been thus far published concerning our new acquisition in the Antilles is entitled Puerto Rico, by WIL-LIAM DINWIDDIE (Harper's). The purpose of this work is to exhibit the industrial, commercial, political and social conditions existing on the island to-day, together with sufficient facts, figures and comparisons of past institutions to give those interested in the future development of the isle n grasp of the administrative problems which confront our Federal Government and of the field for the employment of American enterprise and capital. The author's qualifications for the task are not based exclusively upon a careful study of the documents relating to Porto Rico which are accessible in print. He knows the island at first hand. He spent there the two months Immediately following the Spanish evacuation. and was continually in touch with the leading Spanish and native inhabitants, by sifting whose varying opinions he has endeavored to arrive at trustworthy conclusions. The chapters of the volume which are especially valuable are those which describe the general characteristics of the country and of its population, the industrial possibilities, the social life, the religious and educational institutions and the fiscal and political methods which have hitherto prevailed. The only thing that this book needs to complete its usefulness is a map. It is obvious that the absence of a map compels the reader to seek other sources of information

1. In the chapter on the characteristics of the island, the author notes the surprising feet that cities should have sprung up near almost useless ports, while, at Guanica, which offers a fine, deer-water harbor, a town once recognized as an entrepot of ocean trade has not only failed to expand commercially, but has lost its quondam prestige. The harbor of Ponce is very open and shallow, and not for a moment to be compared with that of Guanica. or with the sen-sheltered havens near Fagardo on the east. At Jobos there is another fine harbor with ample sea room, which, at present, is used only by a few coasting vessels, the neighboring city of Guayama professing tha open roadstead of Arroyo. The myriad small Islands which form the lesser Antilles and curve off in a great are to the southward from Porto Rice, together with the innumerable coral ts shooting out from the northeast corner of the island, constitute a sea screen which protects all the harbors of the castern side. Mr. Dinwiddle deems it probable that under Impetus of American development, this side, instead of being almost described commercially, will become in time the most sought after, for it offers marked natural advantages in the shape of protected sen room, with deep water close inshore. It is true that coral reefs and shoais abound, but, when the Coast Survey shall have mapped the submarine pathways, such obstacles to navigation will be overcome. We add that the northern side of the Island has no good ports, with the exception of the embayed harbor of San Juan. Except the capital the only city which attracts the eye landward is Arceibo, whose cathedral rise from an agglomeration of thatched huts. On the whole, it is admitted that Porto Rico from the water is not an impressive sight; it has but few good harbors, and the best of them appeal neither to the artistic nor to the technical eye. It should be remembered, however, that this Island has less than 350 miles of coast line all told, or, roughly steaking, about as much as

the coast of Massachusetts. In this line there are but six harbors of realcommercial capabilities, nithough it claims fourteen. "Once on shore he traveller realizes for the first time what a ealth of resthetic loveliness and fertile possibillig lies in this land clothed with the livery of troffical vegetation. Almost every foot of ground is steep and rolling, except along the coast lines and, in a few narrow valleys of the interior, where the earth lies seemingly as flat as a floor, from the banks of the wandering rivers to the very foot of the mountains which rise abruptly to sharp curved crests a thousand feet above." The few narrow Inland valleys, found mainly on the northern side east of the centre, are elevated above the sea as much as a thousand feet, and we are told that "no more delightful place of about for white men can be imagined; perfect landscapes; a soil in which almost everything under heaven will grow, cool nights, bearable days, and the whole of this idealistic combination set off with a flingree work of heaving clouds, wonderful rainbows overhauging the green of stately palms, waving, broad-leaved banana plantations, food trees and fruit trees, and jungle forests, whose odd shapes and queer foliage lend a never-tiring charm to the scene. It is a tropic elysium, and will become the winter Mecca of Americans." We perature of the upland interior valleys that is here spoken of. If the average man who formed a part of the army of invasion be asked what he thinks of the climate, his opinion will probably be expressed by the word damnable." As a matter of fact, however, the army of Porto Rico, in spite of necessary exposure, left behind but few men in lonely graves, and had but a small percentage of sickness in its ranks as compared with the soldiers who were forced into the death tranof San tiago, while those who have remained on the island quartered in barracks exhibit a smaller proportion of illness than they did before leaving the United States. In the face of conflicting opinions, our author avers that the climate of Porto Rico is not a difficult one for North Americans to hold their own in throughout the year, although it is most enjoyable in midwinter, when the United States are clothed with ice and snow. In the heat of summer the temperature never rises above 165° Fahrenheit on the seaconst, and the nights are usually cool. Nevertheless, this, which is the rainy season, is a trial to the constitution, for the wet air, heated by sudden sunbursts, is difficult to breathe, and exposure to the chilly damp of night is apt to bring on pernicious and malarial fevers. In winter, or we should rather say during the dry senson of November, De comber. January, February and we might add March, the upper limit of the mercury is about 80° on the coast and 10° lower on the mountains, dropping lowest in January. There is a greater range of temperature between day and night in this season than in summer. the mercury sometimes falling during dark. ness to 65° on the coast and 10° lower in the highest altitudes. The difference, too, between the temperature in open sunlight and dense shade is so marked that it actually dangerous to seek shelter from the sun, when overheated, in the shadow or jungle, Pneumonia is commonly produced in this way, The alarming stories of months of constant precipitation and deluge during the rainy scason have, it seems, no foundation in fact. In April and May, indeed, it is no uncommon thing for heavy torrents to pour down almost constantly for two or three weeks, this incessant downpour usually occurring on the northern half of the island, well up in the mountains. During the interval from May to September there is comparatively little rain for a tropical country, although it must be understood that in Porto Rico at this senson, a day never passes without some rain falling somewhere in ountainous regions. By the middle of October the prevailing north and northeast winds release the population from the thralldom of heat and rain. From this time on until the spring rains supervene. Porto Rico posseases a levely climate. The comparative dryness of the southern side of the island is accounted for by the fact that the winds which blow persistently from the north have their moisture stolen from them on the northern side of the high mountains, which act as a screen. Much of the relative salubriou

as well as the exceptional fertility, of Porto

flowing rivers. It is computed that there are

fifty-one large rivers and over 1,200 small

streams, creeks and rivulets. We are assured

Rico is due to the remarkable number of fast.

from mountain streams.

In the chapter on the opportunities afforded by Porto Rico, Mr. Dinwiddle says that the poor man should keep away from the island, unless he goes thither with some definite commission to execute. At present there are but few things which an American can find to do there sufficiently lucrative to provide him with the staff of life One of these things is to enlist as a recruit in the army at \$15 a month, and the other is to drive a Government mule wagon at \$40 a month and rations. There is nothing else tainable, unless he can speak Spanish, in which vent he may become an interpreter for the army, or, possibly, if he can mix drinks well, e may secure the place of bartender in one the new saloons. Until Congress has adopted ew laws for Porto Rico and Imported capital has developed the resources of the Island there s no room in it for elever, poor Americans. It appears that prices have risen, although the exchange of silver is in favor of the United States. At the Inglaterra Hotel in an Juan, and also, at the Hotel de France in Ponce, which are the leading hostelries in hose two cities, the daily charge for 12 o'clock breakfast, 6 o'clock dinner and a sleeping room is \$3.75. The consumption of coffee, eggs and bread in the early morning brings the bill up o \$4.25 in Spanish, or about \$2.75 in American currency. The service one receives in return vould, in the United States, be considered verpaid at \$1.50. It would, we are told, be lifficult to live even in a private boarding house anywhere on the Island for less than \$50, Spanish, per month. On the other hand, thin lothes are very cheap. Suits of serviceable linen and colored stuffs are made by the tailors for \$5.50 to \$10 Spanish money. Fine dress sods command more than American prices Shirts, collars, cuffs and underclothes are as costly as they are in the United States, and not nearly so well made. Good hand-cobbled shoes may be obtained for \$2 to \$5 Spanish, and fine French shoes may be obtained for half as much more. Food is at one dearer and cheaper than it is in the United States, according as it is an imported or hor product. For a tiny pat of butter you pay 10 ents, and milk, which can only be got in the norming, is ten cents a quart. Cooked eggs are from 5 to 10 cents apiece in the city. Coffee is 10 cents a cup, and chocolate 20 cents. Claret costs 00 cents a quart, and brandy \$1 a. ottle. A drink of rum, on the other hand, can be secured for 2 centaves. Oranges are two for a centavo, and five of the best bananas, the so-called lady fingers, can be bought for the same coin.

Assuming that an American settler in Porto Rico has capital to invest, let us inquire in what lines of business be may embark with a fair assurance of seeing his money returned with interest. It seems that coffee, sugar and tobacco raising offer the best fields for investment. Fruit growing is, as yet, undeveloped, but there is no doubt that every kind of tropical fruit may be brought to perfection in the rich, well-watered soil. Cattle raising will, hereafter, attract money makers in a land where hundreds of thousands of animals may be reared at a minimum expense. Dairy farming is another employment of capital which has a future, notwithstanding the drawbacks of a hot elimate and the present premium up on ice. Canned butter now sells for from 60 cents to \$1 a pound and cream is unknown while choese is annually imported to the amount of a million and a quarter pounds As for lumbering, there are no extensive tracts covered with virgin forests, and the balance of trade in wood is likely to be largely in favor of the United States. Even wood for fuel is becoming scarcer every year and commands from a peso to a peso and a haif for a small or eart load of about a third of a cord.

The three chief agricultural staples of Ports Rico should be examined in some detail. Coffee raising ranks first among the insular industries. There are several features which commend the life of a coffee planter to an American investor. In the first place coffee must needs be raised in the higher altitudes. thus affording a cool, healthful place of residence. Secondly, in the hills and mountains there is atways an abundant water supply. Again, not much technical training is required to raise coffee successfully; this is not true of sugar or tobacco. Finally, the life is an easier for the proprietor, because he travels in the shade of the forest which shelters his coffee trees from the sun as he makes his overseeing tours. Two hundred dolnere for well-grown trees with adequate shade above them has hitherto been considered a round price for a plantation, though as much as \$300 has been paid under ish domination. The price varies according to location and topography, and again, ding to the age of the trees and the condition of the soil. The clearing of virgin soil for coffee-raising in Porto Rico represents much labor, but it is a far easier undertaking than in Cuba, where dense tropleal jungles are encountered. The author says that 55,000,000 unds is a conservative estimate of the amount of coffee exported from the island in 1807. It is evident that the industry is in its infancy, com pared with its possibilities under the stimulus American capital. Not more than 100,000 acres are under cultivation, and the methods mployed for handling the crop are very primitive. The quality of Porto Rican coffee, nevertheless, is held in high esteem on the continent of Europe. France has always been the largest archaser of its high grades and Spain of the poorer grades. Cuba in some years has bought more than any foreign country. In the United States hitherto this coffee has not been sold, xeept in small quantities, our coffee buyers refusing to handle it at the high prices asked for t and obtained abroad. In flavor it is as fine as the best mixtures of Old Government Java and Macha; it has less of the pungent acridity of

the Macha and is stronger than the Java.

The value of the coffee produced in Porto Rico n 180st was computed at \$13,379,000. The the of the sugar and molasses exported or consumed at home in the same year was only about \$5,000,000. It is, therefore, a mistake to suppose that the raising of the sugareane and the manufacturing of its products form the chief industry of Porto Rico. Fifty years ago the soil returned nearly double the crop attainnule to-day. Thus, in 1847, it was possible to raise from 3,500 pounds of sugar per acre on the porest lands to as much as 8,000 or 0,00 pounds at the best. This was accomplished with little resting of the soil, and moreover, at that time the rateons sprang up from the stock cane for six or seven years in succession. Today but little land on the island yields more than 4,000 pounds of sugar, and the average is searer the ton mark. The cane now grows from the rations only four or five years, and then lands must be rested for four or five years be fore replanting. Undoubtedly the existing methods of sugar production are improvements over the earlier ones, yet even now there are but two central factories in Porto. Rico which have really modern machinery. Labor is cheaper to-day in the island than it was fifty years ago when freemen received 25 cents a day and issard. Now, owing to the depreciated value of the insular silver, the best laborers do not get more than 30 to 40 cents per day in gold, and must board themselves. Mr. Dinwiddle is by no means disposed to overrate the prospects of sugar raising in the island, but he points out to the sugarenne growers in the United States that, even to-day, after decades of cane growing in Porto Rico on lands which have never known the taste of fertilizers, and whose readily necessible streams have neve been diverted to irrigate the soil, these lands still average per nere double the crop obtain able in the United States, while the cane throws up its rateons for at least four years instead of having to be replanted annually. He concindes that there must be a profitable field in Porto Bico for just such men as have struggled for a hundred years in Louisiana to rear sugarcane in an artificial environment.

It is a curious fact concerning the tobacco culture of Porto Rico that in 1828 more tobacco was exported by nearly 200,000 pounds than that there is scarcely an area of a square mile in 1800, while in 1840 there were shipped

which might not be irrigated at small expense | abroad 6,693,900 pounds, or over three times the output of three years ago. Mr. Dinwiddle finds it difficult to suggest an explanation of the non-progressiveness of this commodity, which is grown well and easily on the isle. Attention is directed, however, to two contributory causes. The first of these is the rapid increase of tobacco culture in Cuba, resulting from the world-wide demand for the particularly fine leaf grown only in a very restricted area, the so-called Vuelta Abajo, which has made Havana tobacco famous. It was not until the forties that Cuba surpassed Porto Rico in her annual exportations, but since then the latter has been completely selipsed. It is, in the second place, to be noted that in earlier times, as well as to-day, it was almost exclusively the peasant who raised the Porto Rico crop on meagre patches of from a quarter of an acre to several acres, the product being mortgaged beforehand to shopkeepers and petty dealers. The landed pro prictors and capitalists chose to risk their funds in sugar and coffee, and preferred to buy their manufactured tobacco from the expert eigarmakers of Cuba and the peninsula rather than to foster the home industry. Hence at all times, with the exception of the last few years, the manufactured products of tobacco in Porto Rico have been execrable while the leaf itself has been raised by care less hands, eaten by insects, badly cured and improperly packed. For some decades Cuban manufacturers have imported the greater part of the best Porto Rico product. branding it with the attractive word Havana. The second great buyer has been Spain. tween them these two consumers have absorbed most of the Porte Rice crop, leaving only a few hundred thousand pounds in some years for Germany and a few thousand for Italy and France. The inhabitants of the United States smoke Porto Rico tobacco, but they do it under the name of Havana, which increases the cost to the buyer some 50 per cent. Only in exceptional years during Cuba's struggle for liberty have we imported any of flowers, and photograph albums. amount of a few thousand pounds. It is pronounced undeniable that at present the tobacco grown on the smaller island is inferior to that produced on the larger. That the Porto Ricans, however, can grow a leaf equally good Mr. Dinwiddle has no doubt. The soil and elimate both favor the assertion, but until eareful methods of handling, curing and manufacturing prevail, and the growing is done in a scientific manner on large estates the quality and, consequently, the reputation of the tobacco will be lower. It is probable that the change of ownership will cause the raw crop to drift toward the United States. while if Porto Rican products are admitted to our ports free of duty a strong impetus will b given to the manufacture of cigars on the island. It is generally acknowledged that finer cigars may be manufactured in the humid atmosphere of the tropies than in mor northorn, drier regions, where much of the native flavor and aroma of the leaf is lost. The best lands for growing tobacco in Porto

Rico are considered by some experts to be those of the low lying foothills, near the narrow valley meadows, and beneath and protected by the more rugged mountain ranges, but there is a very limited area of such land, made by the disintegration of the massive limestone and fertilized by the decaying vegetable matter of the upper slope; consequently, the higher idges are cultivated to their very tops. The ifferences which exist between the top and ection of ridges are marked in the varying quality of the tobacco; that grown at the tohaving a rougher, darker leaf, while that at the base is thin and good for wrappers. We have referred to the lack of adequate care in the tobacco plantations; the leaves of the growing clants are not assiduously examined for the ergs of cutworms; neither are the building wer stalks sedulously out off, so that the leaves may grow larger. The weakest side tobacco culture on the island is disclosed in the methods pursued in drying. the long, low, open sheds employed for this purpose afford a very imperfect shelter from the weather. Forty days is considered the proper length of time for curing tobacco, and as many planters follow the rule without regard to the kind of weather that may have evalled in the interim, there is a marked difference from year to year in the quality of he product derived from a single plantation. We observe, finally, that all the growers of bacee in Porto lilco bale their product care easly in buriags. One never sees the careful andling of the cured leaf, which is customary in the western province of Cuba. Within recent years, since the introduction of more skilful eigarmakers, the native connoisseurs contend that as good cigars can be manufactured or the island as in Cuba. This opinion will not be shared by the casual visitor, because the vast majority of the cigars which consumed by the native populawrapped with a heavy, coarse, black leaf, They are sold as low as fifty American cents a hundred, and range from this price to the eight used by the average clerk and shopkeeper, which brings a dollar and a haif to two and a half a hundred. Really good eigars, though these are too strong for the American taste sell from three to five American dollars a hun-

Mr. Dinwiddle says that the eights last named, if they had time to age and dry, would named, if they had time to age be sold readily in the United States two for a quarter or five for a dollar. They are well made, burn perfectly, with a clear, white ash and are pleasing in color and fragrance. There s, it appears, a very limited output of yet finer eigars, which, even in Porto Rico, bring as nuch as \$12 a hundred at the manufactory. These are made with the utmost care from th rare, tine leaf and wrapped singly in tinfoll. It is pronounced doubtful whether any Havana-grown tobacco can much surpass this particular brand. It is at Carey where the very best eigars are made. Here there are a number of factories, but none of them employe more than a dozen men and the largest output from a single place is about 3,000 clgars a day Every eight is hand-made, the mould being unknown in the island. We add that the classifying and assorting of eigars by color is in Porto Rico very defective. Thus a box marked claro" may have all shades packed within it from the lightest to the "oscuro." This is one of the defects which has militated against securing a permanent market for the manufactured product. Mr. Dinwiddle tells us that home-made molasses-soaked plug tobacco in opes a hundred feet long is one of the primiive wonders of the island. On any market ay one may see the tobacco man with his little table piled up with bad eigars, black as our hat, so green that you may wring water from them, and so cheap that a silver will buy out his stock in trade; but the bjects which catch the eye are the cylinders, 18 inches high by 6 in breadth, made up, as you would swear, from bights of hawsers oaked in tar, but which, in reality, are chewing tobacco. Try it once and quit. A tobaccohewing Jacky from Georgia with a day ashore at Ponce volunteered the information: suh, that's the most pow'ful stuff I ever stowed in my wisdom teeth. Yes, sub, that's right.' I agreed with him." On the whole, our nuthor believes that the prospects of tobacco raising and manufacturing in Porto Rico are very bright, though the culture may be restricted by the discovery that only certain sections are adapted to it.

IV. In a chapter on home life the author endeavors to account for the relatively cordial welcome which Americans have received from the Spanish-speaking Porto Ricans. Several cirumstances seem to have combined to bring about a felicitous relationship. For centuries the Island has lain in the grasp of the Spanish garrison; a few, much favored have controlled the political and financial conditions to their own emolument and aggran-dizement. By flagrant discrimination they kent down in poverty those who could be of little use to them, while they encouraged such as were willing to share the daily profits of labor. It has, at all times, been possible for the politico-military body in whose hands has rested the fate of the insular population to

make a man powerful and rich to-day and to beggar him as easily to-morrow. The result-ant social and financial state of things is almost incomprehensible to American citizens who are not accustomed to remain silent under abuses. It meant abject indigence for the great mass of the inhabitants. For the hard-working classes, it meant almost as low a rate of wages as is obtainable in China. It meant that a poor man could never become landowner, and that the landowner himself, unless in high favor, must grind the vitals out of his peons, with seant profit to himself, until after Government excises and official tips should have been paid. It meant that only very few could become prosperous and rich and it meant above all that nobody outside o the handful of men in power could have the slightest voice in moulding the laws governing million people. It is not surprising thereore, that this people should stretch out in joy their weak hands, at last unshackled, toward i Sovernment whose name is synonymous with individual freedom. Let us hope that the exrectations of the delivered people may be ful-The home life of well-to-do Porto Ricana i

extremely simple, for the reason that excessive

duties, lack of transportation facilities and

abominable roads have prevented the intro-

duction of the comforts which we consider essential to life. Even the finest baciendas are

meagre and barren as regards their interior fittings. The floors are always bare. On the

walls are but few pictures, the usual mura

lecorations being a pair of Spanish bas-reliefs

in colored plaster or papier maché. Chromo and vilely executed woodcuts are common and present a dismal contrast to the frequently cautiful architectural finish of the drawing rooms, whose wide, doorless archways ar framed in carved wood and relieved from severity by seroll latticework. Marble-topped ma hogany tables, with carved legs, occupy the centres of the rooms. are flowering plants, vases with artifleial the leaf from Porto Rico, and then only to the | the table is a hanging chandelier, usually of ent glass, with a profusion of swinging prisms, sometimes gaudily decorated with colored ribbons, or festooned with artificial vines or flow ers. Cane-seated furniture is used exclusively. Great rocking chairs constitute the principal furniture, but there is a sprinkling of straight-backed chairs and cane settees. The woods of the carved furniture are heavy and highly polished. Some of the straight chairs are rare antiques, handed down for generations. Incongruous decoration pervades every home in the way of cheap porcelain vases, covered dishes with moulded figures upon them antimnenssars and tidles on the chairs, while in the doorways hang the cheapest of lace curtains, held back by brass chains: In the same room there may be some piece of wonderful hand-made native lace or drawnwork. The mathematical precision with which all the furniture is placed in a well-regulated Porto Rican household offends the resthetic visitor. Around the centre table, equally spaced, are the great rocking chairs; against one wall, like sentries, are sta-tioned the straight-back chairs, while flat against the other wail is placed a cane couch er two. Even in the Governor's summer palace this primness in furniture arrangement was encountered. The beds of brass and metal are exquisitely designed and covered with canonics of lace; auxiliary mosquito netting is gathered up on the top during the day and let down a night. For clothes wardrobes are used instead of closets. Heavy carved dressing tables, bureaus, and washstands are occasionally seen, but to the majority these are ton costly luxy ries. Now and then one sees mirrors set in heavy antique frames. Bad soap is met with everywhere, and a single comb and brush seem to answer the needs of the family. Mandeure sets are rare, but the powder puff and rouge are visible in the bedrooms of every well-conducted house. The dining room is always bare, with the exception of the table and chairs and, it may be, a side table. The kitchen it is not well to pene

trate near mealtime, for, although it has nove

and interesting features, it also contains much

dirt and many squalid children. Modern ranges

are seldom employed. Every house has its char-

coal cooking pit built out of brick, waist high

the top of the superimposed bench being cov-

ered with a series of small, square, grated holes

over which pots and kettles and frying paus are

placed. Charcoal, however, in a country where

coal is expensive and gas unknown, is an ideal fuel for cooking purposes. It makes a quick,

hot fire with a minimum amount of combusti-

ble, and the very small holes allow a large

number of dishes to be cooked and kept hot at

the same time. According to Mr. Dinwiddle a dinner in a Porto Rican home is a trying gastronomic ceremony. The menu is made up of astonishing cands, and the dishes follow no convention third dish as the first. Boast Leef and beefsteak are served at unheard-of moments. The disastrous effect of a meat diet in tropical climes has been dwelt upon by medical experts, yet at one dinner no less than eight meat dishes were served, combinations of following is the menu of a dinner given to two Americans by a rich sugar planter: "Fried eggs and two kinds of fried corn cakes. Vegetable soup filled with garlie, 'Gondinga' is hash made of choppe I kidneys and liver, seasoned with garlie and split olives), larded beef-cooked juiceless and hard-flavored with garlie and oil. Beefsteak, with onlone and garlie, fried in oil and served in overdone fragments. Potatoes, sweet and Irish Rice and scrambled eggs, Guava Jelly in rectangular blocks; escenant and brown sugar; American apples and cream choose, Coffee and cigars, Champagne, Claret wa served through the entire dinner, and the coffee was either black or served with hot milk Broken bread was kept always at hand." There are many queer dishes; for example, vermicely soup containing whole pork chops; sausages and tomatoes incorporated made their appearance on one table; on another was a boned goose stuffed with sweet red peppers. and garlie; on still another was a roast chicken stuffed with olives, garlie and sausages. Swee peppers bathed in olive oil are a common rel-"Garbonjas," a succulent pea, not unlike a cooked chestnut in flavor, form a national Spanish dish. "Frijoles," the Spanish red bean, ome on as a separate course. Devilled land crabs, served in olive oil, present a novel dish. The "aguacate," or alligator pear, is often eaten by way of salad in one of the earlier courses, with salt, pepper, olive oil and wine vinegar. A number dulces or sweetments are used, the oddest one being beanut candy with chopped garlie Oranges and small bananas (lady fingers) form another course. Dry native goat cheese handmade is very commonly used. We may say here that the awest potato soup so often en-countered is good and neurishing. The bread

is generally better than ours, and is a close approximation to French brend. One kind of food is served at a time, and the plates, knives and forks are changed with each course. At least a dozen such changes take place at a single meal. Smoking goes on at the table with the ladies present, and unfinished eigars are carried into the drawing room. table decoration consists of a huge bou-quet of native flowers. Napkins, where a huge bouused, are generally as large as towels, but, in many of the interior towns, table lines is at a premium, and it is slightly shocking to atch a pretty senorita slyly wiping her rose bud mouth on the edge of a tablecioth. White wines, rum and cognac are brought out before and after dinner, or at any other time when a host may think an American guest craves stimulation; in his own daily life the average Porto Rican is remarkably abstemious, drinking, perhaps, before dinner some brandy and water, and before breakfast a little white wine The early morning meal of the natives is a cup of coffee with milk and a piece of bread Breakfast is served at 11 or 12, when broiled eggs, bread and coffee satisfy the average man, with possibly a piece of garlicky beefsteak. Dinner is the native's only full and heavy repast; it is eaten between 6 and 7 o'clock. Among the older and non-travelled residents the positions of honor at a dinner

table follow the following order: The head of the table is assigned to the most distinguished guest: the other men, in the sequence of their rank and importance, are ranged around to the right, the host occupying the lowest seat. The women sit at the left of the table, all together. The evenings in the home, let us say, of an Alcalde, the Mayor of a town, are spent around the marble-topped centre table, every body lazily rocking to and fro in a big chair. The men smoke cigarettes-ladies in Porto Rico never amokeand a flow of small talk constitutes the even ing's amusement. Where there are planes. the daughters exhibit their limited skill or instruments jangled and out of tune. One never sees a book or a magazine, although in two or three of the largest cities there are many literary men. The women are pictures of self-complacent indolence in the evening, el though in Porto Rico they are far more as siduous during the day in their attention to household economy than are the women of other Spanish-speaking territories in North

It was during his second voyage in 1403 that Columbus landed in Porto Rico, either on the northern coast at San Juan or at Aguadilla, on the northwest coast. Not finding the natives friendly he set sail again, but Don Juan Ponce de Leon, who accompanied him on this expedition, returned in 1508, after many wander ings, to take possession of the island. In 1510 the first town, called Catarra, now known as Pueblo Viejo, was built near the present site of San Juan, and in 1511 the towns of Aguada and San German were started. The Indians, who were then computed at 600,000 souls were at first very friendly, but Spanish oppres sion soon caused them to revolt against their inquerors, and for a while it looked as though the colonists would be blotted out of existence Superior arms and military science, however finally prevailed, and a century later the abo riginal folk had become nearly extinct. Porto Rico had suffered many flerce attacks at the hands of foreign powers, all but two of which had been repelled, up to the time of the Ameri ean occupation, and Mr. Dinwiddle considers it a most question whether our first expedi-tionary army would not have been wiped out but for the timely arrival of notice of the proto col before any attempt was made to capture the Spanish positions at the impregnable passes of Arbonito and Guayama. As early as 1519 Sir Thomas Bert and Sebastian Cabot harried this Spanish possession: in 1529, French privateers destroyed the town of San German; during the latter part of the sixteenth century Hawkins, Raleigh and Drake plundered Spanish colonies at every opportunity, and in 1505 Drake made an oaslaught on San Juan, resulting in the almost complete destruction of the town. great fortifications of Morro were after this pushed hastily to completion. Three years later, nevertheless, the Earl of Cumberland captured the castle and city of San Juan, but he was forced to release his hold by an entdemic of tropical fever which broke out among his men. The Dutch in 1015 invaded the island, but were driven away after suffering considerable loss. In 1878 the British again attacked San Juan, but their fleet was almost wholly destroyed by a storm. In 170% another British squadron effected a landing at Aricebo, but was repulsed, and in 1719 the most formidable British invasion yet attempted was set on foot when Sir Ralph Aber eromble, with 10,000 men, laid siege to San Juan and Aguadilla, but Morro Castle and the great stone defences at the capital had been finished, and could not be taken. Since Abereromble's repulse no warlike demonstration had been made before San Juan until the bombardment of the city by our navy in 1808.

Lady Louisa Stuart's Writings. An interesting example of what the French call memoires pour servir, or first-hand mate rials for history, is presented in the Selections from the Manuscripts of Lady Louisa Stuars edited by the Hon, JAMES HOME, and published by the Harpers. Besides some tales and verses which possess considerable merit, this volume contains an extended blography of John, second Duke of Argyll, and some hitherto unnublished correspondence between Lady Louisa and Sir Walter Scott. In the blography are delineated, with a thorough knowledge of the subjects and not a little literary skill, some of the conspicuous and characteristic figures of the time of the last three Georges. The letters interchanged with Scott and with his daughter. Mrs. Lockhart, were also well worth reproduction. Before glancing, however, at these papers, we should say a word about their author, who, in her day, was an attractive if not important person, and whose mind re

tained its vigor to the end of a life exception-Lady Louisa Stuart was the youngest daughfor of John, third Earl of Bute, who was Prime Minister at the beginning of the reign of George III., and whose relation to American history is well known. She was born Aug. 12, 1757, while George II. was still King, and died unmarried Aug. 24, 1851, in her ninety-fourth year. As her father retired from public life in 1763, and, in doing so, withdrew himself from general society as well, her youth was a se cluded one, and, being thrown back upon the exercise of her native abilities for recreation, she formed a habit of composition in prose and verse at a very early age. Eventually, like other young women of her position, she went out into London society with her mother, but never seems to have taken much interest in it. After her mother's death in 1794—her father had died two years earlier—Lady Louisa settled in a house in Gloucester Place, which she continued to occupy throughout the remainder of her life. She kept up her habit of writing, but few of her friends knew of her literary efforts, and the sole specimen of her work that has hitherto been published was a chapter of "Introductory Anecdotes" inserted in Dr. Corbet's life of her grandmother, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, She penned the memoir of John, second Duke of Argyll and Duke of Greenwich. which is included in the book before us for the purpose of giving Caroline Lucy, Lady Scott, an account of her great-grandfather Lady Scott was descended from the Duke through her mother, Lady Francis Scott, sister of Henry, Duke of Buccleuch, and posthumous daughter of Francis, Earl of Dalkeith, by hi wife, Lady Caroline Campbell, eldest daughter of John, Duke of Argyll and Greenwich. may here point out that Lady Louisa was herself a grandniece of the same Duke, her grand father, James, Earl of Bute, having married Lady Anne Campbell, the Duke s sister.

Light is thrown upon the degree of refinement characterizing the families of English country gentlemen in the middle of the last century, the period depicted in Fielding's "Tom Jones," by Lady Louisa's account of Jane Warburton, who became Duchess of Her father was Thomas Warburton Argyll. on of Sir George Warburton of Willington. heshire, and her mother was daughter and co-heiress of Sir Robert Williams, third Baronet of Penrhyn. She was a maid of honor a the time when she attracted the Duke, though t puzzled our author to learn wherein he ittraction could have lain. "By what means or interest she became a maid of honor never could understand: for, though weil born, in a herald's sense of the word, her education had not fitted her for a stately, elegant court. Accustomed as we have now so long been to the quick general com-munication which throws the whole kingdom ogother, it is very difficult to carry our ideas back a century or more to the period when there were no stage coaches, no post horses, no turnpike roads, and when, in the distan ounties, men made their wills before they undertook a journey to London. The habits of the town and country were then, of course, much more distinct from each other. Mrs. Warburton, raw from Cheshire, brought with her a coarseness of language and manners which we should hardly expect to find in the dairymaid of her father's equal at present Unluckily, she had few personal charms to make amends for the rusticity, ignorance and want of breeding that soon rendered her the

honorable sisterhood then subsisting were as fond of spitefully teasing each other as were their predecessors, celebrated in the mempirs of Count Grammont or as their successors in Queen Charlotte's train: so what a life poor Jenny Warburton led among them, ever blundering, getting into scrapes and blurting out vulgar expressions, may easily be imagined.

This was the situation of Mrs. Jane Warbur-

rived from the Continent with all his blushing

honors thick upon him and a military reput tion inferior to Mariborough's alone. Lady Mary Wortley Montagu used to say that women see men with their ears. The Duke might have been so seen, but he had likewise everything to charm the eye; personal beauty, an expressive countenance, a commanding al and the most easy, engaging gracefulness manner. Under the circumstances it is not surprising that he should have been the chief subject of conversation at a dinner which the Duke of Shrewsbury, Lord Chamberlain of the Household, gave to the maids of honor according to the usage of Queen Anne's days upon birthday. The cloth being removed and the ladies' toasts called for, while all the rest of the young women named Bishops and Generals, the men furthest from their thoughts, honest Mrs. Warburton went straight to the man uppermost in hers and tonated the Duke of Argyli. Her col-leagues set up a shout of laughter. "Ho! ho! He was her favorite, was he? Truly, she had taken care not to choose too humbly; they wished he did not know his valuable conquest no doubt, he would be amazingly flattered, perhaps made rather too vain." Thus the rail-lery, or, as we now term it, the quizzing, went on, until the victim fell a-crying and the master of the house was forced to interpose to make peace. At night, when everybody met again at the ball, the Duke of Shrewsbury said to Argyll, who stood near him: "My lord, you little think what mischief you have oceasioned to-day. A poor young lady has been shedding bitter tears on your account."
"Upon my account? How so?" Shrewsbury fold him what had passed. "Oh, poor thing!" exclaimed he: "it was very poor thing!" exclaimed he: hard upon her indeed. I have a great mind to go and talk to her by way of defending her cause. Which is she? Introduce me " There upon the quizzers, to their astonishment, and, as one of them, Mrs. Kingdor, acknowledged to their no small mortification, saw him devote himself to Mrs. Jenny Warburton for the remainder of the evening. Possibly what they threw out in scorn came nearer the truth than they suspected. No man can help being flat-

According to Lady Louisa Stuart, the wonder of this affair lay chiefly in the young woman's want of beauty. Mrs. Warburton's other deflciencies were not calculated to disgust a man of very peculiar opinions, whose shining abili ties and loftiness of mind did not prevent his harboring the most illiberal contempt of women. In Athens of yore, we are told, all virgins and reputable matrons were nonentities, that up within four walls to pursue their domestic labors unheard of and unseen, while snowledge, accomplishments, vivacity and everything that can render society agreeable elonged exclusively to the courtesans. The Duke of Argyil thought this just as it should e, or, rather, as it necessarily must be. He had been married very young to a rich citizen's daughter, whom he detested; the two parted quickly, and the little nequaintance be could be said to have had with women since had been confined to the followers of a camp; or, if a few foreign ladies came in his way, he had learned, doubtless with reason, to hold them in very light esteem. In a word, he had come to believe scarcely any woman truly virtuous; but held it certain that none could be so who had the slightest share of mental endowments, natural or acquired. It was plain to him that Jenny Warburton was quite free from these impediments to chastity, yet, trusting to the inherent frailty of the sex and the liberty allowed a maid of honor, he at first concluded that she would fall an easy prey; when, on the contrary, she proved impregnable, not to be tempted by promises, or presents, or magnificent offers, nor yet to be worked upon by all the arts and powers of captivation which he could not but know that he possessed, admiration succeeded surprise. He of price, the most virtuous woman, if the only world; all the while not doubting that the heroic resistance cost her dear, and was the fruit of many a painful struggle with secret love Here, according to Lady Louisa Stuart, his own ardent imagination, aided by his vanity, led him into a triffing mistake. Virtuons the good, simple soul really was, and from principle steadily observed those plain precepts which her limited capacity permitted her o comprehend; but, in the present instance, it cost her no struggle at all. Virtue had neither warm constitution nor a tender heart to conwind with; and as for remantic love-its torments, raptures, conflicts, illusions, perplexities-nothing in Sir Isaac Newton's works could have been less intelligible to mind like Jenny's. She positively would not, for all his Grace was worth (and so she told him), bethat thing whose proper name it did not abhor her, as it did poor Desdemona, to speak very distinctly. But she had no delicacy to be wounded by the affronting proposal; nor did she see in it any eason for keeping him at a greater distance than before, since she felt herself in no danger.

sionate as extraordinary.

The outcome of this love story, which was familiar to Swift and Pope, was that the Duke of Argyli married plain Jenny Warburton six months after the death of his first wife, which occurred less than two years after that of Anne. Marriage is commonly held to be a breaker of spells and time another, Yet, paipably bewitched as the Duke of Argyli was, neither of these reputed solvents could his disenchantment. To say ecomplish he proved an excellent husband would he to understate the truth; he remained throughout life a faithful, doting, adoring Lady Louisa's mother told her that she had often seen the Duke stop on entering the coom, stand a moment or two gazing at the Duchess, as at the lovellest object on earth, and then come forward and clasp her fondly to his bosom. Upon which she never failed to look round and cry: "Do you see, you young folks. On such a day, we shall have been married so many years. Will your husbands' loves last as long, think ye?" Lady Louisa goes on to observe that "human affections are so wayward that his love, perhaps, lasted the longer for the comfortable indifference with which it was repaid—an indifference, however, which she could not help. She loved him as much as she had the faculty of loving any one, and Dido or Eloisa could have done no more." His intatuation did literally equal what philters and sorcery were believed to have produced of old; since, over and above the charm of transcendent virtue, the Duchess certainly had that of beauty in his eyes, alhough in that of no other person's.

and it was not forbidden by the Ten Com-

one's fireside an hour or two every morning.

Their intercourse, therefore, continued undi-

reports to her prejudice; the town, the court,

nay, the sister maids of honor-watchful spies

upon all that passed-bore witness to its per-

feet innocence, and pronounced her character

unimpeachable."

It seems that, notwithstanding his habitual omplaisance, the Duke was not a man to be knowingly governed by his wife, not, at least, in serious matters. Here, however, we should listen to Lady Louisa Stuart, who, although she standing jest of her companions in office. The never married, acquired, in one way or an

other, an extraordinary knowledge of thelars and science of married life: "No one could be more master at home, where his decrees, once issued, were the nod of Jupiter, allowing no resistance, nor, indeed, meeting with any; for a sense of duty disposed her to obey; and, although she had the obstinacy of a fool in the petty concerns that she viewed as her own province, yet it is but fair to say that she was quite free from any taint of the cunning which ton-respectable young ladies were not yet styled Misses-when John, Duke of Argyll, aroften attends weak understandings. Therefore, she never sought to away him by cajoling or artifice. Plain truth and downright honesty were the principal features of her character; she always trod a straight path, and always meant to take the right one. In a word, she was a good woman, to the utmost of her knowledge and power. On these valuable (or rather invaluable) qualities he used to declare that his strong affection for her was grounded, and who can call such a basis insufficient? He would, however, as soon have consulted her eat as herself upon any point of importance. When graver subjects demanded consideration. the wife, the woman, was to keep her due distance and not presume to intermeddle. But then grave subjects and important points are so few, light and unimportant points so many, and these latter start up so continually in the course of every current working day that the party to whom they are carelessly (but constantly) yielded ereeps on acquiring, crumb by crumb, a wonder-ful portion of something which, if not actual dominion, does just as well." We reproduce one more of Lady Louisa's observations, which, for nicety of discernment, will recall Miss Austen. "The Duchess was her husband's darling little bird, whom he loved to indulge, dreaded to hurt, and could not have the heart to handle roughly. In addition to this tender feeling, allowances were to be made for the weakness of the sex, and its whimsies and waywardness, and it was idle to argue with women, and women must have their own collsh way. And thus it ended in her having hers pretty generally in all ordinary daily procodings, which were all she cared for."

In one of Sir Walter Scott's letters to Lady Louisa, a letter dated Edinburgh, March S. 1827, we learn something about the circumstances under which the authorship of the Waverley novels was divulged: "The avowal of the novelist character was a mere accident. The circumstances attending Constable's bankrupter placed the secret, such as it was, in the hands of too many persons to suppose that a denial could any longer be taken at my hands, and whenever that became the case I tered by the sincere voluntary preference of only looked for some decent opportunity to lay any young woman; and he might secretly imaside the mask, which was grown as thin as agine that the impulse of such a preference had my Aunt Dinah's. Besides, the joke had lasted thrown the innocent girl off her guard. Be ong enough, and I was tired of it. I had not, this as it might, one conversation gave birth however, the most distant intention of choosto many another; these led to visits. The vising the time and place, where the thing actuits grew frequent, till they took place daily. ally took place, for making the confession, and in a short time the duke's attachment to Lord Meadowbank, who is a kind and clever Mrs. Jenuy became notorious, and was as paslittle fellow, but somewhat bustling and forward, said to me in the drawing room, 'De you care anything about the mystery of the Waverley novels now?' 'Not I,' I replied; the secret is too generally known.' I was led to think from this that he intended to make some jocular allusion to 'Rob Roy.' I trusted to find something to reply when I should hear. being willing on such occasions (like an old cudgel player as I am) to take up the baskets at any time for the amusement of the good company. But when, instead of skirmish of this kind, he made a speech in which he seriously identified me with the author of Waverley,' I had no opportunity of evasion and was bound either to confess or deny, and it struck me while he was speaking it was as good and natural an occasion as I could find for making my avowal. And so out it came, to the great astonishment of all the My secret was just in the case of Jack Meggot's monkey, which died just when Jack got completely tired of him." Scott goes on to say that he was tired of telling lies which were not believed. "A lawyer like Fag in 'The Rivals' never cares for telling a lie, either for serving himself or ellents, but it goes against one's conscience to be found out. In fact, as to my denials. I could not have kept my secret a moment unless I had shut the mouths of people who had thought themselves entitled to pry into what they have no business with. Your ladyship knew the parties too well to suppose poor Duke Charles would press on the secret of any friend. He was the person in the world who observed most delicacy on such ecasions, and the way that his Grace came to know the circumstances was precisely con-trary to those in which I was said to have denied them. The subject being brought on remained convinced that he had found a pearl | by some inquisitive person at Drumlanrig, I could not help saying the next time we were alone together that I was surprised his Grace had never testified any curiosity on the subject, and told him the secret at the same time, although I do not believe he ever doubted how the thing stood. There was a singular circumstance the other day, like some of those which happen with respect to omens, green, ac., corresponding with the original. Two states with the properties of the control of the state of the author in question. The base of the author in question in the sentieman who maintained the negative gave up his wager as lost, from the result of some inquiries. I suppose, and the day was fixed for announcing a handsome entertainment, suitable, as the newspaper said, for the importance of the occasion. Just as the party was roady for dinner, lot arrives the news of the control of the con mandments, nor in any part of the Bible, to let a man, whether handsome or ugly, sit by minished; continued so for years. And what was remarkable, but a proof that the world can sometimes be just, it raised no scandalous